

judges, as adjusted under 5 U.S.C. 5372(b)(4), are set forth on Schedule 10 attached hereto and made a part hereof.

**Sec. 7. Effective Dates.** Rates for the Congress, under Schedule 6, are effective on February 16, 2007. Schedule 7 reflects continuation of the pay rates in effect as of the first day of the applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2006. Schedule 8 is effective on January 1, 2007. The other schedules contained herein are effective on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2007.

**Sec. 8. Prior Order Superseded.** Executive Order 13393 of December 22, 2005, is superseded.

**George W. Bush**

The White House,  
December 21, 2006.

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register,  
10:38 a.m., December 22, 2006]

NOTE: This Executive order and the attached annexes will be published in the *Federal Register* on December 26.

**Memorandum on Provision of  
Aviation Insurance Coverage for  
Commercial Air Carrier Service in  
Domestic and International  
Operations**

*December 21, 2006*

*Memorandum for the Secretary of  
Transportation*

*Subject:* Provision of Aviation Insurance Coverage for Commercial Air Carrier Service in Domestic and International Operations

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including 49 U.S.C. 44302, *et seq.*, and 3 U.S.C. 301, I hereby:

1. determine that continuation of U.S.-flag commercial air service is necessary in the interest of air commerce, national security, and the foreign policy of the United States;

2. approve provision by the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) of insurance or reinsurance to U.S.-flag air carriers against loss or damage arising out of any risk from the operation of an aircraft in the manner

and to the extent provided in Chapter 443 of 49 U.S.C.:

- (a) until August 31, 2007;
- (b) after August 31, 2007, but no later than December 31, 2007, when the Secretary determines that such insurance or reinsurance cannot be obtained on reasonable terms and conditions from any company authorized to conduct an insurance business in a State of the United States; and

3. delegate to the Secretary the authority vested in me by 49 U.S.C. 44306(c) to extend this determination for additional periods beyond August 31, 2007, but no later than December 31, 2007, when the Secretary finds that the continued operation of aircraft to be insured or reinsured is necessary in the interest of air commerce or the national security, or to carry out the foreign policy of the United States Government.

You are directed to bring this determination immediately to the attention of all air carriers within the meaning of 49 U.S.C. 40102(2), and to arrange for its publication in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

**Remarks Following a Visit With  
Wounded Troops at Walter Reed  
Army Medical Center**

*December 22, 2006*

Laura and I are honored to be here to thank the folks working here at this service project. What you're seeing is some young kids wrapping gifts for children whose families are here in Washington, DC, as a result of an injury that they've received—that their parent received in combat.

We've also just come from Walter Reed. I got to tell you, it's a remarkable experience to go through the hospital. It's remarkable because of the unbelievable compassion and care of the people who work at Walter Reed. And it's also remarkable to me, these men and women who have volunteered to serve our country, who've received terrible wounds, but whose spirits are strong; their resolve is strong; and their dedication to our country remains strong.

I want all our fellow citizens to understand that we're lucky to have men and women who have volunteered to serve our country like those who wear our uniform. We're lucky to have their families support them so strongly. We owe them all we can give them—not only for when they're in harm's way but when they come home, to help them adjust if they have wounds or help them adjust after their time in service. We owe a huge debt of gratitude for incredible men and women. And I—every time I come to Walter Reed, I am moved by the courage and bravery of the people I meet.

And so on behalf of a grateful nation, I want to thank our military families, thank the folks here who are wrapping gifts for the military families, and ask for God's blessings on our citizens.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12:01 p.m.

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### **Digest of Other White House Announcements**

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The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

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#### **December 16**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

#### **December 18**

In the morning, the President had breakfast with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Later, he had an intelligence briefing and met with the National Security Council. Then, in the Oval Office, he met with Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates.

Later in the morning, in the Roosevelt Room, the President met with Jewish higher education leaders.

In the afternoon, the President traveled to Arlington, VA. Later, he returned to Washington, DC.

#### **December 19**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, in the Oval Office, the President signed H.R. 6143, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Modernization Act of 2006, and S. 3678, the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act.

Later in the morning, in the Oval Office, the President participated in an interview with the Washington Post.

In the afternoon, the President participated in a photo opportunity with U.S. Ambassadors. Later, in the Roosevelt Room, he met with White House Fellows.

In the evening, on the State Floor, the President and Mrs. Bush hosted a holiday reception.

#### **December 20**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

The President announced his intention to appoint John V. Cogbill III as a member of the National Capital Planning Commission and, upon appointment, designate him as Chairman.

The President announced his intention to appoint Stephen J. Cassidy as a member of the Medal of Valor Review Board (Firefighting).

The President announced his intention to appoint M. Josephine Beach and Phillip M. Schofield as members of the Advisory Board on Radiation and Worker Health.

The President announced the recess appointment of Warren Bell as a member of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

The President announced the recess appointment of Wayne Cartwright Beyer as a member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

The President announced the recess appointment of Mark McKinnon as a member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

#### **December 21**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing.

#### **December 22**

In the morning, the President had an intelligence briefing. Later, the President and